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DATE 6/27/2016

NEWS RELEASE

Teens in Fatal Northeast Collision Identified

Date/Time: Thursday, June 23, 2016 @ 8:40 p.m.
Location: 8700 Diana
Vehicle 1: blue, 2016 Ford Focus
Driver: 22-year old Mario Lopez of El Paso, TX
Passenger: 20-year old Gonzalo Lopez of El Paso, TX
Vehicle 2: blue, 2014 Chevrolet Spark
Driver: 15-year old Natalie Torres of El Paso, TX **(DECEASED)**
Passenger: 16-year old Max Perez of El Paso, TX **(DECEASED)**

EL PASO, TEXAS: Special Traffic Investigators (STI) of the El Paso Police Department have identified the teens involved in last Thursdays Fatal Northeast Collision as 15-year old Natalie Torres and 16-year old Max Perez. This investigation continues.

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HISTORY

El Paso, TX. Officers of the Special Traffic Investigations unit responded to assist Northeast Regional Command Center officers in the 8700 block of Diana at Guadalupe on a fatal traffic collision Thursday, 06-23-2016 at 8:40 p.m. The preliminary investigation revealed that Mario Lopez was driving a blue 2016 Ford Focus north on Diana at the 8700 block with his passenger Gonzalo Lopez. At the same time the blue 2014 Chevrolet Spark was east on Guadalupe. Investigators determined that the driver of the Chevrolet Spark entered the intersection of Guadalupe and Diana attempting to cross Diana, but failed to yield the right of way to the Mario Lopez. As a result, Mario Lopez' 2016 Ford Escort struck the 2014 Chevrolet Spark. The collision resulted in the death of the passenger in the Chevrolet Spark at the scene. The 15-year old driver was transported to University Medical Center where she also died. Mario Lopez was arrested on a charge unrelated to this collision. This became the 34th and 35th traffic fatalities of 2016 as compared to 25 during this same time period in 2015.

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